

IDAHO WOMEN'S COMMISSION

AGENCY STRATEGIC PLAN

For Fiscal Years Ending
July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2011

IDAHO WOMEN'S COMMISSION

Vision

The Idaho Women's Commission envisions an environment in which all women and their families within the State are ensured equal opportunities and protection in all aspects of their personal and professional lives

Mission

The purpose of the Idaho Women's Commission is to encourage and stimulate women to increase their participation in and contributions to the social, political and economic progress of their local communities, the state and the nation. The IWC engages in activities that encourage and stimulate the development of strong families.

Operating Philosophy

We operate under the philosophy that volunteer service is essential to the success of a society. We are committed to the use of fairness to achieve personal and professional equity. Commission members are aware and respectful of the special problems and issues facing women and families.

Issues/Challenges

- Women need access to information and services in a timely, helpful manner. Women looking to access state or community services often do not know where to start.
- Legal representation is costly and legal issues can be confusing, especially for women in crisis.
- Many women are uninformed about their legal rights and responsibilities or about legislation that might impact them.
- Many women are uninformed about financial decisions, how to start a business, and many other issues of importance to them.
- Although half of the state's population is female, the majority of its elected officials and policy makers are male.
- Idaho is extremely diverse, geographically and economically. To address a variety of women's needs the Commission must communicate with and reach out to women across the state.

Goals

Goal #1

Increase the dissemination of information on economic and educational issues as well as direct women and families to legal help.

Goal #2

Inform the public about the resources available to women and families.

Goal #3

Provide tools and resources to empower women to become successful.

Objectives

Objective #1

To increase the number of contacts and activities planned with Idaho citizens, organizations, legislators, and media representatives.

Actions/Strategies

- Suggest a series of networking meetings in each commission member's geographic area, with the goals of gathering input on women and family issues and create regional contacts for members.
- Increase participants attending the networking meetings on a yearly basis.
- Increase media contacts and legislative contacts made on a yearly basis.
- Meet with members of commissioner's communities and with legislators to identify new areas of concern or need for women in Idaho.

Performance Measures

- Increase the number of contacts made with citizens, public agencies and legislators, private organizations and the media.
- Increase the number of activities planned with or supported by the commission.
- Increase the number of commissioner volunteer hours.

Performance Benchmarks

- Number of contacts made each fiscal year.
- Number of activities planned and supported.
- Number of volunteer hours given by commissioners.

Objective #2

To increase the number of "Idaho Laws, A Guide for Women and Families" booklets distributed each time it is revised and reprinted as funding allows.

Actions/Strategies

- Print a baseline of 13,000 copies in FY09; increase the number to 14,000 in its next printing as funding allows.
- Maintain a distribution plan and a means of collecting donations for the booklet that will reach more Idahoans.
- Print a baseline of 7,000 copies of the Spanish Translation by FY10 as funding and contributions allow.

Performance Measures

- Increase the number of booklets printed and distributed.
- Maintain good records of distribution and fundraising efforts.
- Increase the number of the Spanish booklets printed and distributed.

Performance Benchmarks

- Baseline of copies printed in FY07
- Baseline of copies distributed in FY08
- Baseline of Spanish copies printed
- Baseline of Spanish copies distributed in FY08

Objective #3

Promote the website as a resource for women and families in Idaho.

Actions/Strategies

- Utilize the referral database of the Idaho Careline on our website and direct callers to their 211 or toll free listing
- Utilize the Commission web page for referrals and Frequently Asked Questions
- Maintain a calendar of training and conferences available to women and families on the IWC website

Performance Measures

- Increase the number of referral sources listed in the Commission office
- Increase the number of calendared events statewide listed on the website
- Update and maintain the web page referrals and Frequently Asked Questions.

Performance Benchmarks

- Baseline: currently listed sources in FY07
- Baseline: number of events listed on website in FY07
- Number of visits to Commission web page

Objective #4

Enhance the commission's reach to women and families.

Actions/Strategies

- Continue the "800" number.
- Participate in statewide and local conferences for women and families.
- Sponsor educational seminars in regions throughout the state.
- Distribute the IWC's brochure.

Performance Measures

- Increase the number of information referral phone contacts made to the Commission office

- Increase the number of information email contacts made to the Commission email
- Increase the number of conferences and seminars the Commission participates in.
- Increase the number of IWC brochures distributed.

Performance Benchmarks

- Baseline number of calls in FY07.
- Number of phone contacts in each fiscal year.
- Number of email contacts in each fiscal year.
- Number of conferences and seminars in each fiscal year.
- Number of IWC brochures distributed.

Objective #5

To increase the amount of information gathered about legislative or state directed activities impacting women and families and increase dissemination of that information.

Actions/Strategies

- Obtain copies of all house and senate bills affecting women and children in Idaho.
- Update commissioners on pending bills that affect women and children during the legislative session.
- Alert Commission members and other interested parties on action needed.
- Hold legislative reception for all legislators during the session to inform and be informed about the issues.

Performance Measures

- Increase the contacts made with elected Legislators, Commissioners, State agencies, and public policy groups concerning pending and approved legislation.
- Increase contacts with other state and national women's organizations.

Performance Benchmarks

- Number of mailings and telephone calls to groups each fiscal year.
- Number of legislators attending our reception each year.
- Number of committee hearings and other meetings attended each fiscal year.

Objective #6

Provide mentorship list to women businesses.

Actions/Strategies

- Develop a network of successful business people to serve as mentors.
- Provide information about the mentoring program on the website, brochure, and law book.

Performance Measures

- Establish a list of mentors for women in business.
- Place the list on the website
- Place information about the program on the website, in the brochure and law book.

Performance Benchmarks

- Baseline mentoring list in FY07.
- Information published and available.